

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 2 are pending; each is independent. The claims have been amended to define the invention more precisely, and reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by a U.S. patent to Sudo et al. No. 6,223,058. The Examiner contends that every feature recited in each of those claims is disclosed by the Sudo et al. patent. The Examiner explains the rejection as follows (sections 4 and 5 on pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action):

... As per claim 1, Sudo et al., hereinafter Sudo, discloses a communication terminal comprising:
a display unit (14) which displays a selection screen for selecting at least one of a plurality of options (Figure 22(A) for option 2-5); and
display control means (11) which causes display of options in said display unit by division or scroll to enable selecting an option not currently displayed in said display unit from the options to be selected (Figure 22 push "7" key), and which causes, when an option not currently displayed has been selected, display of a screen associated with said selected option in said display unit (Figure 22(B)) and performs a display so as to include said selected option when displaying said selection screen next (Figure 22(C)).

... As per claim 1, Sudo et al., hereinafter Sudo, discloses a communication terminal comprising:
a display unit (14) which displays a selection screen for selecting at least one of a plurality of options (Figure 22(A) for option 2-5); and
display control means (11) which causes display of options in said display unit by division or scroll to enable selecting an option not currently displayed in said display unit from the options to be selected (Figure 22 push "7" key), and which causes, when an option not currently displayed has been selected, display of a screen associated with said selected option in said display unit (Figure 22(B)) and causes display of information indicating said selected option when displaying said selection screen next (Figure 22(C)).

It is understood that the second reference to claim 1 in the language quoted above is

intended to be a reference to claim 2.

The rejection is respectfully traversed. The amended claims make clear the distinction between the original selection screen in, for example, Fig. 34A, and the selected option screen in, for example, Fig. 34B.

In Fig. 22 of the Sudo patent, cited by the Examiner, pushing the “7” key with options 2-5 displayed (Fig. 22(A)) calls up a new display in which option 7 appears (Fig. 22(B)). The Examiner apparently means to read the claims on the transition from Fig. 22(A) to Fig. 22(B). However, the transition from Fig. 22(A) to Fig. 22(B) of Sudo is merely a “page-down” function: instead of displaying options 2-5, the screen displays options 6-9. In the application, the transition from, for example, Fig. 34A to Fig. 34B is not a page-down function but a display of sub-options related to an option not even displayed in Fig. 34A. Note that the claims call for a display control means which causes, when an option not currently displayed has been selected, display of a screen associated with said selected option in said display unit. That cannot be read on Sudo’s transition from Fig. 22(A) to Fig. 22(B). Sudo’s entire sequence is “page-down” (transition from Fig. 22(A) to Fig. 22(B)) followed by “select” (transition from Fig. 22(B) to Fig. 22(C)). The “select” function is made on the basis of what is in the then-current display (Fig. 22(B)).

Moreover, the concluding part of the claims cannot be read on the disclosure of the Sudo et al. patent. Both of those claims require a certain characteristic of the display when displaying the original selection screen next. In the Sudo et al. patent, the original selection

screen of Fig. 24(A) does not include option 7 when next displayed and thus does not conform to the requirements of the claims.

Contrast that to a communication terminal in accordance with the present invention, whose operation is illustrated, for example, in Figs. 34A-34C. Initially, as indicated in Fig. 34A, the menu displays options 1-4. If one selects option 6, which is not displayed in Fig. 34A, the display then shows sub-option 6-1 through sub-option 6-4 (Fig. 34B). In response to a clear command, the menu reverts to the higher level original display of Fig. 34A, except this time the display includes option 6. A person using a communication terminal constructed in accordance with the invention does not have to start all over with the display of Fig. 34A as illustrated but can continue use of the terminal from the display of Fig. 34C.

That feature is also neither disclosed nor suggested by the Sudo et al. patent.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

The additional documents of record, whether considered separately, in combination with one another, or in combination with the Sudo et al. patent, fail to disclose or suggest the invention as defined in the claims as resubmitted.

For the reasons stated, it is therefore respectfully requested that the Examiner enter this amendment and issue a notice of allowance.

Patent
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6822/62934

If a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of the application, the
Examiner is invited to call undersigned counsel.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William E. Pelton", is written over a horizontal line.

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 and 2 have been amended as follows:

--1. (Amended) A communication terminal comprising:
a display unit (14) which displays [a] an original selection screen for selecting at least one of a plurality of options; and

display control means (11) which causes display of options in said display unit by division or scroll to enable selecting an option not currently displayed in said display unit from the options to be selected, and which causes, when an option not currently displayed has been selected, display of a screen associated with said selected option in said display unit and performs a display so as to include said selected option when displaying said original selection screen next.--

2. (Amended) A communication terminal comprising:
a display unit (14) which displays [a] an original selection screen for selecting at least one of a plurality of options; and

display control means (11) which causes display of options in said display unit by division or scroll to enable selecting an option not currently displayed in said display unit from the options to be selected, and which causes, when an option not currently displayed has been selected, display of a screen associated with said selected option in said display unit, and causes display of information indicating said selected option when displaying said original selection screen next.--